

Microsoft, Eddie Bauer on list of best workplaces for commuters

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Harborview Medical Center made the list of best workplaces for commuters.

SEATTLE - A coalition of business and government organizations has released the first annual list of the Puget Sound's Best Workplaces for Commuters. The list spotlights 249 employers and two districts offering superior commuter benefits to 449,600 employees in the Puget Sound area.

This year's list includes Holland America, City of Renton, Stevens Pass Ski Area, Harborview Medical Center, Snohomish County, Heller Erhman LLP, Parsons Brinckerhoff, and ZymoGenetics.

"Commuting can lead to stressed-out employees and a stressed environment," said EPA Administrator Stephen L. Johnson. "These leading companies are relieving that commuter strain, improving the quality of life for their employees and the quality of the environment for their communities."

Participating employers must offer their employees superior commuting benefits such as employer provided transit passes, vanpool subsidies, bike commuter facilities, onsite day care, and telework programs. To qualify, organizations must provide:

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- A central point of contact for information, who actively informs employees of commuter benefits available.
- Access to a regional or employer-provided Guaranteed/Emergency Ride Home program.
- At least one primary commuter benefit, which can include a monthly transit/vanpool pass subsidy, cash in lieu of free parking, or a significant telecommuting program.
- At least three supporting commuter benefits, such as carpool/vanpool incentives, lockers/showers for bikers or walkers, incentives for living near work, or onsite amenities such as day care or dry cleaning.